



00862.022285

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: H. Nguyen |
| Yutaka TANAKA et al. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2851 |
| Application No.: 09/897,930 |) | |
| | : | Confirmation No.: 1834 |
| Filed: July 5, 2001 |) | |
| | : | Allowed: February 11, 2004 |
| For: PROCESSING APPARATUS FOR |) | |
| PROCESSING SAMPLE IN | : | March 30, 2004 |
| PREDETERMINED ATMOSPHERE |) | |

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER TRANSMITTING CORRECTED FORMAL DRAWING

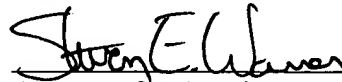
Sir:

Transmitted herewith is one (1) formal drawing sheet, Figure 7, to be substituted for the corresponding drawing sheet currently on file in the above-identified application.

Figure 7 incorporates the change requested by Applicants in a Request for Permission to Amend the Drawings filed on August 7, 2003, which was subsequently approved by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowability dated February 11, 2004.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven E. Warner", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

Steven E. Warner

Registration No. 33,326

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
SEW/eab

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